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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/936,747	02/15/2002	Christian Kropf	CU-2655 RJS	8969

7590

06/18/2002

Richard J Streit
Ladas & Parry
Suite 1200
224 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60604

EXAMINER

DODSON, SHELLEY A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1616

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/936,747

Applicant(s)

KROPF ET AL.

Examiner

SHELLEY A. DODSON

Art Unit

1616



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE(3) MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application filed 02/15/02.

Applicant's claims are directed toward use of nanoscalar water-soluble beta-(1,3)glucans.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

15.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-9 of the above stated claim is viewed as indefinite because of the term "use" in said claim. The term "use" or "using" does not describe a process step. Ex parte Dunki, 153 USPQ 678. The law does not permit the claiming of an invention in terms of use. Clinical Products Ltd. v Brenner, Commr, Patents, 149 USPQ 475.

16.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. § 101 reads as follows:

"Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter or any new and

useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefore, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title".

17.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed toward non-statutory subject matter. Applicant is advised that the term "use" does not describe a process step and that the law does not permit the claiming of an invention in terms of use.

DOUBLE PATENTING

18.

The non-statutory double patenting rejection, whether of the obviousness-type or non-obviousness-type, is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent. In re Thorington, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969); In re Vogel, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); In re Van Ornum, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); In re Longi, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); and In re Goodman, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

19.

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(b) and (c) may be used to overcome an actual or

provisional rejection based on a non-statutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.78(d).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

20.

Claims 1-9 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-10 of copending Application No. 09/936,788; over claims 1-10 of copending Application No. 09/937,013; over claims 1-5 of copending Application No. 09/958,056 and over claims 1-8 of copending Application No. 09/958,057. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because all copending Applications are claiming the use of water-soluble beta-(1,3)glucans as a cosmetic preparation. Applicant's statement of the specific intended use is of no patentable distinction. Additionally, applicant's open terminology "comprising" does not exclude any of the additional components claimed by the referenced applications.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

21.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of potential 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

22.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

23.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Donzis USP 5,705,184 in view of WO 95 30022 Engstad et al, both cited and supplied by applicant.

Donzis discloses the use insoluble beta-(1,3) glucans with the particle size 1000 nm or less for the revitalization of the skin. donzis differs from the instant application in that it employs water insoluble glucans. Engstad et al disclose water-soluble beta-(1,3) glucans having a particle size in the region of 10 to 300 nm. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the particles of Donzis with the particles of Engstad in order to incorporate the glucans more easily into cosmetic preparations since they are water soluble thereby accelerating the uptake of glucans in topical cosmetic or pharmaceutical preparations.

24.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shelley A. Dodson whose telephone number is (703) 308-2445. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-4556. A facsimile center has been established in Crystal Mall 1, Room 7C11. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:45 AM to 4:45 PM. This new location should be used in all instances when faxing any correspondence numbers to Group 1600. The Patent examining Fax

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Center telecopier numbers are (703) 308-7921 and (703) 308-4556. Use of the new Crystal Mall 1 Center will facilitate rapid delivery of materials to the Group. The faxing of all papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 109 O.G. 30 (November 15, 1989).



Shelley A. Dodson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1616

May 20, 2002